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Agenda item 18
Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

Security Council
Fifty-fifth year

Identical letters dated 9 October 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Algeria to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

In anticipation of the Security Council's consideration, at the end of this month, of the question of Western Sahara and the renewal of the mandate of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO), I should like to recall the unwavering position of Algeria, an observer State to the implementation of the settlement plan, concerning the just and definitive resolution of this question.

1. Algeria is firmly convinced that the settlement plan that was accepted by the two parties, the Kingdom of Morocco and the Frente Popular para la Liberación de Saguia el-Hamra y del Río de Oro (Frente POLISARIO), on 30 August 1988, approved by the Security Council in its resolutions 658 (1990) of 27 June 1990 and 690 (1991) of 29 April 1991 and unanimously supported by the international community, is and remains the only framework for a just and definitive settlement of the conflict between the Kingdom of Morocco and the Frente POLISARIO, which has continued for over 25 years.

The validity of the settlement plan and the correctness of the steps taken by the United Nations were, moreover, strongly reaffirmed on 3 October 2000 by the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) in a draft resolution submitted by the Chairman and adopted by consensus.

2. Today, as in the past, Algeria remains fully prepared to make its contribution to the just and definitive settlement of this conflict, which can only be achieved through the faithful and full implementation of the settlement plan, the Houston agreements and the detailed modalities that have been accepted by the two parties for the implementation of the Secretary-General's measures relating to the identification of voters and the appeals process.

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In this context, Algeria will continue to give its full support to the efforts of the Secretary-General, his Personal Envoy and his Special Representative to organize, in cooperation with the Organization of African Unity, a referendum for self-determination of the people of Western Sahara that is impartial and free of all constraints.

3. Algeria attaches the greatest importance to the full cooperation of the two parties with the Secretary-General, his Personal Envoy and his Special Representative and calls upon them to continue to cooperate with a view to implementing the various phases of the settlement plan and overcoming the remaining obstacles to the implementation of the plan.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 18, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Abdallah **Baali**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative